

**October 1, 2020
Electronic Meeting**

The Board Meeting will stream live at https://youtu.be/G_0gXs9R_BA

AGENDA

Thursday, October 1, 2020, Board Meeting 9:00 am

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Approval of Agenda
– Byron Bateman, Chairman | ACTION |
| 2. Approval of Minutes
– Byron Bateman, Chairman | ACTION |
| 3. Old Business/Action Log
– Byron Bateman, Chairman | CONTINGENT |
| 4. DWR Update
– Mike Fowlks, DWR Director | INFORMATIONAL |
| 5. 2021-2022 Fishing Recommendations and Fishing Contest Rule Amendments
– Randy Oplinger, Sportfish Coordinator | ACTION |
| 6. Angler Opportunity Assessment Update
– Craig Walker, Aquatic Section Assistant Chief | INFORMATIONAL |
| 7. Middle Provo River Update
– Jackie Watson, Blue Ribbon Fisheries Biologist | INFORMATIONAL |
| 8. R657-62 Rule Amendments – Deployed Military
– Lindy Varney, Wildlife Licensing Coordinator | ACTION |
| 9. Conservation Permit Audit
– Kenny Johnson, Administration Services Section Chief | ACTION |
| 10. Conservation Permit Annual Report
– Justin Shannon, Wildlife Section Chief | INFORMATIONAL |
| 11. Cougar Conservation and Expo Permit Request
– Darren DeBloois, Game Mammals Program Coordinator | ACTION |
| 12. Repeal Rule R657-38 Wildlife Sensitive Species
– Mike Canning, Assistant Director | ACTION |
| 13. 2021 RAC/Board Dates
– Staci Coons, Wildlife Board Coordinator | ACTION |
| 14. Other Business
– Byron Bateman, Chairman | CONTINGENT |

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act - Persons needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) for this meeting, should contact Staci Coons at 801-538-4718, giving her at least five working days notice.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the ability of the virus to spread from person to person, the Governor has implemented a number of Executive Orders directed at controlling spread of the virus by minimizing face-to-face interactions. Public gatherings are strongly discouraged by the CDC, State of Utah, and local health departments since they facilitate face-to-face contact and pose an elevated risk for virus transmission. The Division of Wildlife Resources and the chair of this public body have determined that public gathering at Regional Advisory Council and Wildlife Board meetings presents a substantial risk to the health and safety of those who attend—and will conduct this meeting using a fully electronic format. This meeting format is authorized by recent amendment to the Utah Code¹ and Executive Order by Utah Governor Gary Herbert²—and will be temporarily used in place of the in-person public meetings that usually occur around the state. Anyone wishing to comment on agenda topics in future meetings or to observe this meeting may do so by logging on to the Division’s webpage at <https://wildlife.utah.gov/feedback.html> where instructions and links are provided.

¹ Utah Code Section 52-4-207(4).

Wildlife Board Motions

Following is a summary of Wildlife Board motions directing the Division to take action and the response to date:

Fall 2020 – Target Date – Premium Fishing Areas

MOTION: To have the division look into the possibility of designating premium fishing areas - that allow artificial flies and lures only- to have increased license requirements and fees and to bring the information back during the next recommendation cycle.

Motion made by:
Byron Batemen
Assigned to:
Randy Oplinger
Action: Under
Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: September 27, 2018

APPROVED

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
October 1, 2020, DNR Auditorium
Electronic Meeting
Summary of Motions

1) Approval of Agenda (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Wade Heaton, and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda for the October 1, 2020 Wildlife Board Meeting.

2) Approval of Minutes (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Wade Heaton, and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the September 16, 2020 Wildlife Board Work Session Meeting.

3) 2021-2022 Fishing Recommendations and Fishing Contest Rule Amendments (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that the Wildlife Board write a letter to the State of Wyoming Game and Fish Commission requesting true reciprocity of state fishing licenses between the State of Utah and the State of Wyoming on the Flaming Gorge interstate waters.

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth. The motion was not seconded, and the motion failed.

MOTION: I move that we allow filleting in the field of harvested kokanee salmon at Strawberry Reservoir as long as the skin is left intact.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth, and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented, with the addition that anglers return tagged Northern Pike on Utah Lake, but that the catch and kill order for the non-tagged Northern Pike remains in place.

4) R657-62 Rule Amendments – Deployed Military (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the rule amendment with a modification in the

wording that states that in order to be eligible for this benefit the individual requesting the benefit must be on active duty and be deployed outside the State of Utah.

5) Conservation Permit Audit (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton, and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Conservation Permit Audit.

6) Cougar Conservation and Expo Permit Request (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Wade Heaton, and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the request as presented.

7) Repeal Rule R657-38 Wildlife Sensitive Species (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Wade Heaton, and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we repeal Rule R657-38.

8) 2021 RAC/Board Dates (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Donnie Hunter, and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the proposed 2021 RAC and Board meeting dates.

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
October 1, 2020, DNR Auditorium
Electronic Meeting
Attendance

Wildlife Board

Byron Bateman – Chairman	Karl Hirst
Kevin Albrecht – Vice-Chairman	Donnie Hunter
Mike Fowlks – Exec Secretary	Randy Dearth
	Wade Heaton

RAC Chairs

Central – Brock McMillan
Southern – Brayden Richmond
Southeastern – Chris Wood
Northeastern – Brett Prevedel
Northern – Justin Oliver

Division Personnel

Mike Canning	Darren DeBloois	Jackie Watson
Marty Bushman	Craig Walker	Phil Tuttle
Greg Hansen	Randy Oplinger	Chris Crockett
Kevin Bunnell	Russell Norvell	James Christensen
Miles Hanberg	Lindy Varney	Chris Penne
Jason Vernon	J. Shirley	Staci Coons
Kenny Johnson	David Beveridge	Paige Wiren
Justin Shannon	Torrey Chistophersen	Paul Gedge
	Paul Washburn	Mike Christensen
	Matt Briggs	

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- 00:01:00** Chairman Bateman called the meeting to order, read a statement from the State of Utah regarding COVID-19 and public meetings, and took a roll call. Wildlife board member Bret Selman was not present, and Chris Wood sat in for Trisha Hedin as the Southeastern RAC chair.
- 00:04:16** **1) Approval of Agenda (Action)**
The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.
MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda for the October 1, 2020 meeting.
- 00:05:01** **2) Approval of Minutes (Action)**
The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.
MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the August 27, 2020 Wildlife Board Meeting and the September 16, 2020 Wildlife Board Work Session Meeting.
- 3) Old Business/Action Log (Contingent)**
The Action Log item was addressed in agenda item 6) Angler Opportunity Assessment Update.
- 00:05:47** **4) DWR Update (Informational)**
Director Mike Fowlks gave Habitat, Law Enforcement and Administrative Services Section updates. The Director announced the transfer of Attorney General Martin Bushman from the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources to the Utah Division of Water Rights.
- 5) 2021-2022 Fishing Recommendations and Fishing Contest Rule Amendments (Action)**
Randy Oplinger gave a pre-recorded online presentation that was posted on the Division of Wildlife Resources website.
- 00:09:28** **DWR Clarification**
Randy Oplinger explained an adjustment to the proposed Fish Lake spearfishing closure date.
- 00:10:29** **Board Questions**
The Board asked about a proposed tagged Northern Pike fish regulation at Utah Lake.

00:12:25 Public Comments

Director Fowlks summarized public comments received from the online presentation, and requested clarification on how the Board should present their motion on the 2021-2022 Fishing Recommendations.

00:14:11 Board/RAC Questions

The Northeastern RAC expressed the desire to communicate a request for true reciprocity between Utah and Wyoming fishing licenses on Flaming Gorge interstate waters. Director Fowlks suggested that the Utah Wildlife Board draft a letter of request to the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.

00:20:46 RAC Recommendations

All RACs unanimously passed the recommendations. The Northern, Central and Southern RACs also agreed to support a true reciprocity letter of request to the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.

00:23:11 Board Discussion

There was discussion from the Board about whether or not filleting of kokanee salmon in the field at Fish Lake would be a valuable rule change.

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that the Wildlife Board write a letter to the State of Wyoming Game and Fish Commission requesting true reciprocity of state fishing licenses between the State of Utah and the State of Wyoming on the Flaming Gorge interstate waters.

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth. The motion was not seconded, and the motion failed.

MOTION: I move that we allow filleting in the field of harvested kokanee salmon at Strawberry Reservoir as long as the skin is left intact.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented, with the addition that anglers return tagged Northern Pike on Utah Lake, but that the catch and kill order for the non-tagged Northern Pike remains in place.

00:36:22 6) Angler Opportunity Assessment Update (Informational)

Craig Walker provided an update on the limited entry fishing action item.

7) Middle Provo River Update

Jackie Watson gave a pre-recorded online presentation that was posted on the Division of Wildlife Resources website.

00:39:06 Board/RAC Questions

There were no questions from the Board or RACs.

8) R657-62 Rule Amendments – Deployed Military (Action)

Lindy Varney gave a pre-recorded online presentation that was posted on the Division of Wildlife Resources website.

00:39:51 Public Comments

Director Fowlks summarized public comments received from the online presentation.

00:40:06 Board/RAC Questions

There were no questions from the Board or RACs.

00:30:43 RAC Recommendations

The Central, Northeastern, Southern and Southeastern RACs unanimously passed the rule amendment as presented. The Northern RAC made a motion to accept the rule change as presented with the removal of the words “outside the continental U.S. and its territories.” That motion passed unanimously.

00:39:57 Board Discussion

The Board asked for clarification of the legal scope of the definition of “resident deployed military members” as presented in the rule amendment proposal. Director Fowlks suggested that the motion could be expressed to define “deployment” as outside of the State of Utah.

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the rule amendment with a modification in the wording that states that in order to be eligible for this benefit the individual requesting the benefit must be on active duty and be deployed outside the State of Utah.

9) Conservation Permit Audit (Action)

Kenny Johnson gave a pre-recorded online presentation that was posted on the Division of Wildlife Resources website.

00:47:07 Public Comments

There were no public comments received.

00:47:17 Board Questions

There were no questions from the Board.

00:47:37 Board Discussion

The Board praised the Division for its management of program funds accountability. The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Conservation Permit Audit.

10) Conservation Permit Annual Report (Informational)

Justin Shannon gave a pre-recorded online presentation that was posted on the Division of Wildlife Resources website.

00:49:19 Board Questions

There were no questions from the Board.

00:49:37 Public Comments

There were no public comments received.

00:49:46 Board Discussion

The Board thanked the Division for the presentation.

11) Cougar Conservation and Expo Permit Request (Action)

Darren Debloois gave a pre-recorded online presentation that was posted on the Division of Wildlife Resources website.

00:51:07 Public Comments

Director Fowlks summarized public comments received from the online presentation.

00:51:22 Board/RAC Questions

There were no questions from the Board or the RACs.

00:51:34 Board Discussion

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the request as presented.

12) Repeal Rule R657-38 Wildlife Sensitive Species (Action)

00:52:43 Public Comments

Director Fowlks summarized public comments received from the September 16, 2020 Wildlife Board Work Session Meeting.

00:53:16 Board Questions

The Board asked for clarification on the difference between the Wildlife Sensitive Species list and the species of greatest conservation concern and need listed in the Wildlife Action Plan, and also commented on the ostensible redundancy of the Sensitive Species list.

00:54:48 Board Discussion

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we repeal Rule R657-38.

13) 2021 RAC/Board Dates (Action)

Staci Coons gave a pre-recorded online presentation that was posted on the Division of Wildlife Resources website.

00:56:00 Public Comments

Director Fowlks summarized public comments received from the online presentation.

00:56:11 Board/RAC Questions

There were no questions from the Board.

00:56:49 Board Discussion

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Kevin Donnie and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the proposed 2021 RAC and Board meeting dates.

00:57:35 12) Other Business (Contingent)

The Board thanked Division of Wildlife Resources Attorney General Martin Bushman for all the work that he has done for the Division, the State of Utah and the public, and for the support that he provided to the Wildlife Board.

01:00:46 Meeting adjourned.